

In the Claims

Kindly amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (currently amended) A control circuit for a lift system having a lift cage movable in a lift shaft by a drive unit, a control for controlling the drive unit, a data bus connected with the control, shaft doors for closing the lift shaft, locking devices for locking the shaft doors at a shaft side and locking sensors for monitoring the setting of the locking devices, wherein the locking sensors are connected with the control by way of the data bus, the ~~improved~~ control circuit comprising means for repeatedly interrogating a locking sensor at short time intervals by way of the data bus whereby communications interruptions or transmission errors in data bus transmissions are detected, and for periodically testing the function of the locking sensors of all ~~elevator~~ lift shaft doors by

a) observing the signals locking sensors produce during opening/closing of the shaft doors in normal ~~elevator~~ lift operation and

b) automatically initiating a test travel of the lift cage ~~independent of normal operation of the lift cage~~ to a story whose shaft doors have has not been operated within a defined period of time, opening and closing the shaft doors, and observing the signals produced by the locking sensor associated with the shaft doors.

2. (original) The control circuit according to claim 1, characterized in that the locking device is self-shutting when the corresponding shaft door is closed.

3. (currently amended) The control circuit according to claim ~~4~~ or 2, characterized in that the locking devices for locking the shaft doors are of a construction whereby they can be unlocked, opened or closed only by a cage door provided at the lift cage and can be unlocked by a special tool and slid open by hand.

4. (currently amended) The control circuit according to claim ~~4~~ or 2, wherein the locking sensor includes means for monitoring the state of the associated locking device and shaft doors.

5. (currently amended) The control circuit according to claim 4 ~~1~~ or 2 wherein the locking sensor is chosen from a group consisting of a locking device contact, a microswitch, an inductive sensor, a capacitive sensor and an optical sensor.

6. (currently amended) The control circuit according claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the control includes means for evaluating interrogation of the locking sensors in order to be able to trigger one or more of the following operations: recognition and localization of a fault; triggering of a service call; or, if an open shaft door was recognized, stopping lift cage or carrying out a situation-adapted reaction.

7. (original) The control system according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the control includes means for evaluating the interrogation of the locking sensors in order to correct ascertained transmission errors by evaluation of several data packets.

8. (currently amended) The control system according to claim 7, further including means for monitoring a cage door by ~~performing~~ enabling a coincidence check of the signals of a shaft door and the cage door, to evaluate the functional capability of at least one of the shaft door and the locking sensor of the shaft door.

9. (original) The control system according to claim 8, characterized in that the monitoring of the cage door is carried out by a safety bus in order to increase safety.

10. (original) The control system according to claim 1, further including in addition to the locking sensors further means for detecting a state of the shaft doors and for transmitting information about the state of the shaft door by way at least one of the data bus or a safety bus to the control.

11. (previously presented) The control system of claim 1 or 2 wherein the defined period of time is between 8 and 24 hours.

12. (new) The control system according to claim 6, further including means for initiating a recovery attempt in the event of receipt of a negative result of one of the operations, including means for performing a multiple closing and opening of the shaft door to achieve a correctly closed and locked shaft door.

13. (new) The control system according to claim 8, further including means for initiating a recovery attempt in the event of receipt of a negative result of a coincidence check, including means for performing a multiple closing and opening of the shaft door to achieve a correctly closed and locked shaft door.

14. (new) The control system according to claim 6, further including means for carrying out a situation-adapted reaction comprising means to allow the lift cage to travel to a next story reachable without requiring the cage to pass the shaft door with an open contact.

15. (new) The control system according to claim 6, further including means for carrying out a situation-adapted reaction comprising means to allow the lift cage to be moved to a position I which its cage roof is disposed slightly below the shaft door having a door locking problem whereby the risk of a person falling through an open shaft door in the lift shaft is minimized.

16. (new) The control system according to claim 6, further including means for carrying out a situation-adapted reaction comprising means to move the lift cage at a slow speed to an affected story showing a door locking problem and conducting multiple door openings and closings allow the lift cage to be moved to a position in an attempt to clear the problem and return the lift cage to an operational ready state.